



Message from the President. . .

Another Holiday season is here and I am looking forward to having an evening devoted to catching up with everyone. I am looking for an icebreaker activity that we can use to kick things off. If anyone has something different we can use this time please let me know.

I would like to thank all of you that participated in our Euchre event. It was a success, raising \$300 for the scholarship fund. Thanks to every one who brought food and donated prizes. A special thanks to Donna who helped me and the staff at Viva put the room back together. They had set it up for a craft sale to be held on Saturday morning so the card tables had been removed! Also, Louise for the 'coffee train' that includes so many necessities that just make the meetings and events come together.

Earlier in November Janet, Jane, Marcy and I attended what many of you would know as the Fall Gathering. This year our regional director put together an event called Talk It Out. We were grouped in specialty areas (Presidents, Advocacy, Program and Membership). We went around the table having each president say something that is working well and something they are struggling with in their clubs. It was very interesting how similar themes kept emerging despite huge differences in sizes of the clubs.

The number one issue was shrinking membership. Even the club with over 200 members is worried because they used to be 300. Another was archives. We are a relatively young group and still have our documents in boxes passed from one basement to another. You can imagine that there are clubs that have a serious storage issue but more than that they need someone to go through and ensure what is being stored is relevant and organized. One idea that came from this discussion though was that there are city archives and apparently they are willing to take in our local clubs' documents.

We will talk more about this event at the January meeting. Meanwhile see you at the party at Viva and if not have a wonderful Holiday season!

Cathy



Annual Christmas Party!

Potluck Dinner

**Wednesday,
December 2, 2013**

**Viva Retirement
Centre
1880 Glengrove Rd
Pickering**

7 pm



**Come join us for
some Christmas
cheer, fun and
friendship!**



Minutes of General Meeting Wednesday November 4, 2015

Minutes of the Ajax/Pickering CFUW monthly meeting on November 4, 2015 at the V!VA residence in Pickering

At 7:15, Cathy called the meeting to order. Jennifer welcomed new and returning members. We introduced ourselves.

- **Membership report:** Lori

We have 15 paid members. Cheques for \$110 are welcome.

- **Treasurer Report:** Jane

The club account balance is \$6,268.67.

- **Publicity Report:** Janet M

Janet has received free materials from head office: general info flyer, scholarship info, business cards, and a poster. Janet shared the business cards with members. Head office can make a banner for us. Janet had meeting information published in Durham-on-line and the News Advertiser for September and October. Our Facebook page has been fixed and we are on Twitter. Some places still say that our meetings start at 7:30. Janet will attempt to correct the start time to 7:00.

- **Newsletter Report:** Sandy

Sandy asked for email addresses for all new members. Sandy informed members that updates and news are available from the National office. Links are in the Newsletter. Please register if you wish to stay informed about national and provincial issues.

- **Advocacy Report:** Marcy

BIG news: we have gender equality in the new federal cabinet, 15 women of varying skills and experience will work with 15 men. We are pleased that the Minister of Science is a woman. Other welcome news: Kabul University in Afghanistan will start offering a masters program in Women's Studies.

Marcy offered to write a letter to our new MPs to tell them about our club. All agreed.

- **Program report:** Caroline

Caroline sent info to the wrong Janet.

- **International Women's Day event:** Cathy M

We are hosting the event in partnership with the Scarborough CFUW club.

Location: Qssis, Kingston Road and Markham Road in Scarborough.

No speaker has been determined

- **Club News**

Cathy M, Caroline, Jane, Marcy and Janet M will be attending the Fall Gathering on Saturday November 7 from 9:00 until noon in Toronto. Pat Joyce has arranged for a series of "Talk It Out" workshops.

Caroline reported that Cindy's Mother passed away recently. There will be no funeral but the family will get together in late November. Dale will send a sympathy card on behalf of club members. Donations to Scientists in School are appreciated.

Louise S reported that Cindy has agreed that the Scientists in School office can provide a backup location for our monthly meeting if V!VA is not available on short notice. The room can accommodate 15. Members suggested that we might check to see if the Amici restaurant might be another alternative.

Cathy M will ask V!VA if we can meet in the large open room in the lower level on December 2 for our annual Christmas potluck. The President usually hosts in her home but Cathy's home is too small to hold the numbers who attend. NO NUTS please.

- **Euchre Night Fundraiser** – 7 pm in pub area at V!VA on November 14.

Participants will pay \$15 at the door. Alcohol will not be available.

Volunteers:

Donna has decks of cards, pens and score sheets
Prizes: Cathy H, Jane, Dorothy, Judy K, Sandy B and Dale.

Louise S: coffee, tea, milk and sugar, cooler with cold water

Dale: napkins, small plates, forks.

Desserts: Jane, Janet M, Dorothy

Snacks for the tables: Lori, Caroline, Donna

Door prize tickets: Louise S

The **Book Group** will meet at Janet M's home on November 25 to discuss *Us Conductors*.

Louise S thanked Marcy and Dale for the snacks.

Dates and Data

CFUW Websites:

Main website: <http://www.cfuw.org>

Ontario Council Website: <http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca/>

CFUW on Facebook

CFUW has a Facebook group! If you are a Facebook user you can join the group by searching for Canadian Federation of University Women, or visit <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2232370205>

Ajax-Pickering on Facebook:

Our club now has its own Facebook page. You do not have to have a Facebook account to view this page. Simply Google Ajax-Pickering CFUW Facebook page or click on the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/CFUWAjaxPickering?ref=stream>

Ajax-Pickering on Twitter: Use @CFUWajax

The Ontario Council newsletter, *Dates and Data*, is available on-line on the Ontario Council website.

The Communicator newsletter is available on-line on the main website.

Note re January's newsletter....

As usual, Santa is giving me a month off so there will be no regular newsletter in January. If you have information you would like to distribute to club members in January, please email it out to members as required. Regular newsletters will resume in February.

Sandy

Way to Go CFUW Ajax-Pickering!!

The book sale at the November meeting raised \$50. Happy reading to all who bought books!



Advocacy

It's Never Ok: Action Plan to Stop Sexual Violence and Harassment is the document issued last March by the Ont. government, Tracy MacCharles, Min. Responsible for Women's Issues.

You can download it or request a hardcopy from your MPP.

To learn more about Ontario's plan to stop sexual violence and harassment visit:

Ontario.ca/itsneverokay

Upcoming CFUW Events

Ontario Council Standing Committee Meeting

Next Meeting: January 23, 2016

All members are welcome to register and attend the Standing Committees Meeting and luncheon. Please download the registration form from the Ontario Council website and send the form with a cheque to the Treasurer by the Tuesday preceding the meeting.

Yorkminster Park Baptist Church
1585 Yonge Street

Morning Session Topic
To be announced

Speaker
To be announced

Check In 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.
Meeting Begins at 10:00 a.m.
Catering requires pre-registration

[Registration Form \(PDF\)](#)



Make this your best year ever!



2015 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Wednesday June 24, 2015:

Dunbarton High School (Durham College-UOIT)

Chidinma Azubuike, Urban and Regional Planning at Ryerson University, future graduate studies at law school

Pine Ridge High School (Scarborough Convention Centre, Finch/Morningside)

Heather Brownlee

Thursday June 25, 2015:

Denis O'Connor

Catholic High School (school gym)

Cassandra Collins

J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate (Durham college-UOIT)

Shante Barnes, UOIT Bachelor of Science - Nursing

Friday June 26, 2015: Pickering High School (Durham college-UOIT)

Crystal Bryan

Notre Dame Catholic High School (Embassy Church, Taunton Rd, Oshawa)

Roslyn Stanislaus, U of Toronto – Specialist in Management and International Business (MIB) Co-op Program

St. Mary Catholic Secondary School (Global Kingdom Ministry, 1250 Markham Rd)

Rachel Paul

Friday November 6, 2015:

Ajax High School (Durham College/UOIT)

Danielle LeBrun



Annual Christmas Party!!

When: Wednesday, Dec. 2nd, 7:00 p.m.

Where: Viva Retirement Centre

What to bring: Potluck Food item -

Appetizer, Main Course or Dessert - your choice! (No nuts please!)

**Keep in mind that hot items must be cooked at home. There is no stove at Viva.*

Please bring a donation for the food drive to the meeting.

Start the Christmas season off right with good friends, good food, and lots of fun. Hope to see you at the party!



Interest Groups

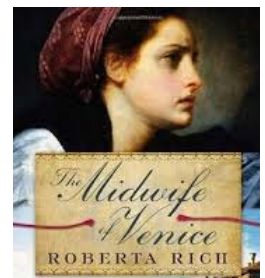
Get involved—get connected!! Join an interest group or better yet – organize one!

Book Club

Book Club is open to all, and all are welcome! The January Book Club meeting will be held on **Wednesday, Jan 27th**, at 7:30 pm at Nonna S's.

The book is ***The Midwife of Venice*** by Roberta Rich.

Please contact Nonna at 420-6470 to confirm attendance.



Climate Change is a Women's Issue

From November 30th to December 11, 2015 in Paris the United Nations Climate Conference will meet to attempt to achieve a legally binding limit on greenhouse gas emissions. Prime Minister Trudeau, Provincial premiers and Territorial, will represent Canada as well as Canada's new Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna. Many other representatives of Canadian environmental organizations will also attend the conference.

Climate change is expected to impact developing countries and people living in poverty most significantly in terms of ability to change and accommodate to new conditions.

Women are disproportionately the most impacted in many countries because they often have the responsibility to secure water, food and energy sources for heat needed for cooking. Climate change will make it more difficult to access natural resources and as well women in such circumstances are often limited in decision-making and access to economic resources that would assist their abilities to adapt.

In so many parts of the world climate change is already directly impacting the lives of women who already face many challenges simply because they are women.

However, Environmental Issues have always been women's issues around the world as evidenced by the work of some notable women.

Jane Addams (1860-1935)



One of the first individuals to identify environmental issues and the impact on human health. She advocated for environmental equality for all citizens no matter their income or ethnic background. She was the first to thoroughly identify lead poisoning and industrial poisoning in poor

neighborhoods. She was the first woman to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1931 for her work.

Elizabeth May (1955-present)

Leader of the Green Party of Canada and an elected Member of Parliament.

She is perhaps one of Canada's best-known environmentalists.

Starting in the 1970's she campaigned to stop the spraying of pesticides in Nova Scotia forests. From 1986- 1988 she was senior policy advisor to Conservative Environmental Minister Tom McMillian. From 1993 to 2006 she was the director of the Canadian Sierra Club. She has published widely on environmental issues and is an outspoken advocate for environmental issues in Canada and around the world.



Rachel Carson (1907-1964)

A marine biologist who studied and researched the impact of chemicals on natural

environments. She was particularly concerned by the widespread use of synthetic chemicals

and pesticides after WW2 especially in terms of long term effects on human and natural environments. She is most remembered for her research into the long-term effects of DDT, which eventually led to its being banned.



Dr. Vandana Shiva

An Indian environmentalist who is an expert on the intellectual Property Rights as applied to natural resources. In 1982 she created the

Research Foundation for Science Technology and Ecology, which is today called Naydyanda. It is an organization that "strives to promote the diversity and integrity of living resources especially native seed, the promotion of organic farming and fair trade" (Vandana Shiva) She is especially outspoken about the issue of genetically modified crops and the risks involved.



Wangari Maathai (1940-2011)

Wangari Maathai started the green belt movement in Kenya which later spread to other countries in Africa. To combat the corporate deforestation that was so damaging to substance farming through so many communities, Wangari encouraged women to plant trees to counter balance the impact of deforestation. As a result 30 million trees were planted mostly by women throughout Africa. She became the first African woman to win the Nobel Prize for Peace In 2004.



Sheila Watt-Cloutier (1953-present)

A Canadian Inuit advocate, she has worked tirelessly to ensure the cultural, health and human rights



of Inuit peoples in the Canadian north as they face the impacts of climate change today. She sees climate change as a particular challenge for the Inuit who must adapt often with few resources or recognition of their challenges. She has been a past leader of the Circumpolar Conference which is an organization that represents 150 thousand Inuit people in the Canadian north, Alaska, Greenland and Russia. She believes the impact of climate change right now in the Arctic is an early indication of how the global south will be impacted.

How can we as Canadian women contribute to decreasing greenhouse gas? There are many ways but here are some:

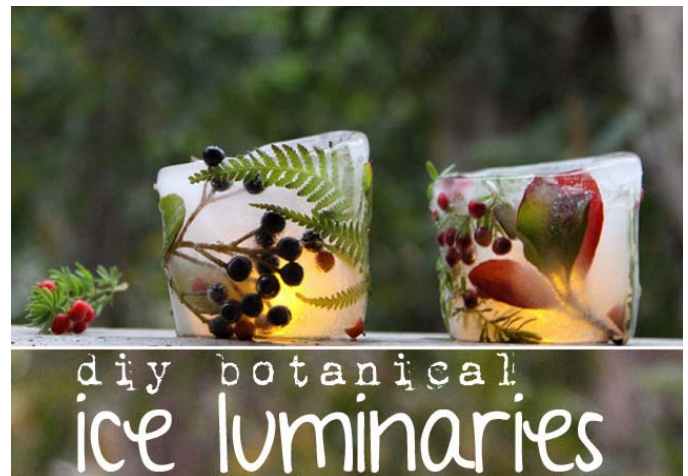
- Adopt a vegetarian diet
- Use less heat/air conditioning
- Replace light bulbs
- Drive less/drive smart
- Buy energy efficient products
- Use less hot water
- Set off switch
- Plant a tree
- Try not to buy/use bottled water
- Try not to use single use packages

The preceding article was submitted by Marcy R.

Sources:

"Down To Earth." Down To Earth. N.p., n.d. Web. 29 Nov. 2015.
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 "www.biography.com/people/elizabeth May." www.biography.com. N.p., n.d. Web. 29 Nov. 2015.
 "www.nobel Prize.org." Maathai-facts.htm. Nobelprize.org, n.d. Web. 29 Nov. 2015.
 "www.the Canadianencyclopedia.ca." N.p., n.d. Web. 29 Nov. 2015.

Try this great natural craft idea to brighten up your walkway and help save energy!



Instructions for creating these luminaries can be found at this link:

<http://www.apieceofrainbow.com/diy-botanical-ice-luminaries/>

Upcycling - the latest trend (and environmentally friendly too!)

Try this link for great ideas for making unique gifts for everyone on your Christmas list:

<https://www.pinterest.com/savvyb/upcycle-and-repurpose-ideas/>

Newsletter Deadline

Information for the February newsletter should be submitted by **Friday, January 29th, 2015.** Submissions can be mailed, dropped off, or sent via e-mail (jbriell@bell.net). Contact Sandy at 905 428-0003 for further information.

Note from the Editor

The Grapevine is available in both electronic (Adobe PDF) and hardcopy formats, with electronic being the preferred, more cost-efficient format. **If you have recently changed your e-mail address or other contact information,** please let me know so I can update the club membership list and get the newsletter to the right place!

CLUB WEBSITE

<http://www.ajaxcfuw.ca/>

Our website has a brand new look. If you have anything you wish to add, or any new content you would like to see, please contact Sandy. This is still a work in progress so keep checking back!

Facebook/Twitter

This year we will be sending out meeting information via these social media platforms to try to encourage new members. Visit our new **Facebook page** (see page 2 for more info) or connect with us on **Twitter** (@CFUWajax).

December 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Club Meeting – Christmas Party!	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		